

## CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A method for playing a modified blackjack card game,  
5 by a dealer and by at least one player, for an amount of money, utilizing at least one standard deck of playing cards which includes a plurality of Aces, Kings, Queens, and Jacks, and which also includes a plurality of cards having numbers ranging between two and ten, wherein the dealer and each of  
10 the players is dealt a hand comprising at least two cards during the course of the game, wherein each of the cards has an assigned numerical value, wherein the assigned numerical value of the Kings, the Queens, the Jacks, and cards having the number ten thereupon are equivalent to one another,  
15 wherein the total numerical value of a particular hand is the sum of the numerical values of the cards which comprise said hand, wherein the game has a predetermined numerical value above which the total numerical value of a player's hand and the dealer's hand may not exceed without losing the game,  
20 wherein when the total numerical value of the dealer's hand is equal to that of the player's hand this results in a tied game as between the dealer and said player, unless both the dealer and said player each have a hand having at least one card selected from a group of cards consisting of a King, a  
25 Queen, and a Jack, in which case said King, Queen, and Jack are assigned an actual value, in addition to their numerical value, wherein the King has a higher actual value than a

Queen, which has a higher actual value than a Jack, which has a higher actual value than a card having the number ten, said method comprising the steps of:

5       placing a bet by each of the at least one players;

      dealing each of the at least one players a hand of cards comprising a first card and a second card, and also dealing the dealer a hand of cards comprising a first card and a  
10   second card, one of the cards of the dealer dealt face-down so that the player will not see the value of said card;

      winning the game by a player who is dealt a hand equal in value to the predetermined numerical value;  
15

      allowing each player the option of having the dealer replace the second card of the player with a new second card, for a price of a portion of the player's original bet, in order to achieve a better hand;

20       opting by each of the at least one players to receive an additional card from the dealer, when said at least one player believes that this will result in the total value of the player's hand being greater than the total value of the  
25   dealer's hand, but less than or equal to the predetermined numerical value;

repeating the immediately previous step by each of the  
at least one players until said at least one player believes  
that receiving an additional card will result in the total  
value of the player's hand exceeding the predetermined  
5 numerical value;

losing the game and the amount of the bet by the player  
if the total value of the player's hand exceeds the  
predetermined numerical value, even if the total value of the  
10 dealer's hand also exceeds the predetermined numerical value;

playing the dealer's hand by the dealer after each of  
the at least one players, in turn, has finished playing the  
hand of said player, by the dealer continuing to take  
15 additional cards until the numerical value of the dealer's  
cards is greater than or equal to a chosen number lower than  
the predetermined numerical value, or until the dealer loses  
the game by exceeding the predetermined numerical value;

20 determining the total numerical value of each of the  
players' hands relative to that of the dealer's hand;

winning the game by the player having a hand having a  
total numerical value that is greater than the value of the  
25 dealer's hand, but less than or equal to the predetermined  
numerical value;

paying by the dealer to the winning player an amount of money;

losing the game by the player having a hand having a  
5 total value that is less than the value of the dealer's hand,  
or greater than the predetermined numerical value, and  
thereby forfeiting the amount of the bet of said player to  
the dealer;

10 having a tied game in which neither the dealer nor the  
player win the game, if the total numerical value of the  
player's hand is equal to that of the dealer's hand, unless  
the dealer and the player each have a card selected from the  
group of cards consisting of Kings, Queens, and Jacks;

15 resolving the tie by comparing the actual value of the  
King, Queen, or Jack of the player and the dealer;

winning the game by the player if the actual value of  
20 the player's hand is greater than the actual value of the  
dealer's hand;

paying by the dealer to the winning player an amount of  
money; and

25 losing the game by the player if the actual value of the  
player's hand is less than the actual value of the dealer's

hand, and thereby forfeiting the amount of the bet of said player to the dealer.

2. The method of playing a modified blackjack card game as  
5 recited in claim 1, wherein if the total numerical value of  
the dealer's hand is equal to that of the player's hand, and  
if the dealer and the player each have at least two cards  
selected from the group of cards consisting of Kings, Queens,  
and Jacks, only the card of said two cards having the highest  
10 actual value will determine the winning hand.

3. The method of playing a modified blackjack card game as  
recited in claim 1, wherein if the total numerical value of  
the dealer's hand is equal to that of the player's hand, and  
15 if the dealer and the player each have at least two cards  
selected from the group of cards consisting of Kings, Queens,  
and Jacks, and if the comparison of the card of said two  
cards having the highest actual value will not resolve the  
tie, then the dealer compares the actual value of the card of  
20 the at least two cards having the second highest actual  
value, in order to resolve the tie.

4. The method of playing a modified blackjack card game as  
recited in claim 2, wherein each card is further  
25 characterized by a symbol of one of four suits, wherein the  
suits are clubs, spades, hearts, and diamonds, wherein if the  
first two cards dealt to the player are an Ace of spades and

a Jack of spades, the modified blackjack card game pays the player at a ratio of 2:1, regardless of the value of the dealer's hand.

5 5. The method of playing a modified blackjack card game as recited in claim 4, wherein the predetermined numerical value is twenty-one.

6. The method of playing a modified blackjack card game as  
10 recited in claim 5, wherein the second card that the player has returned to the dealer for a replacement card is discarded from any future play in that particular game.

7. The method of playing a modified blackjack card game as  
15 recited in claim 6, wherein an Ace has an assigned value of one or eleven.

8. The method of playing a modified blackjack card game as  
recited in claim 7, wherein a Jack, a Queen, a King, and a  
20 card having the number ten thereupon, are each assigned a numerical value of ten.

9. The method of playing a modified blackjack card game as  
recited in claim 8, wherein the cards having numbers from 2-  
25 10 have a numerical value equal to said numbers.